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As these lectures were delivered in Chicago, much attention is given to the history of the Swedish emigration to America, the ecclesiastical relations of the Swedish immigrants, and the growth and present condition of the influential Swedish Augustana Synod of the Lutheran Church, with its more than 160,000 communicant members, whose central institution at Rock Island Bishop Wordsworth visited. There is however no allusion, save in the index, to the distinguished Rt. Rev. K. G. H. von Scheele, the bishop of Visby, whose three visits to this country as the official representative of the king and church of Sweden have exerted the greatest influence in maintaining and strengthening the bond between the mother church and her American daughter, and whose last visit, in company with the learned Rector Magnificus of Upsala, Professor Schück, whose name appears frequently in this book, preceded that of the Bishop of Salisbury only by about three months; and on referring to the page indicated, the only Scheele mentioned there (p. 327) is the chemist of the eighteenth century of the same name.

Notwithstanding the dedication of the book, by permission, to the Crown Princess of Sweden, and the reading of the proofs by several prominent Swedish ecclesiastics, it leaves the impression of being made from the outside, instead of being a growth from within. No one can charge the author with conscious unfairness. His amiability and earnestness are attractive. But with all this the value of these lectures is only as an incentive and suggestion of an interesting and fruitful field that in the English language awaits an historian who can cultivate it with more scientific methods.

HENRY EYSTER JACOBS.

*The King's Customs: an Account of Maritime Revenue and Contraband Traffic in England, Scotland, and Ireland, from the Earliest Times to the Year 1800.* In two volumes. By HENRY ATTON and HENRY HURST HOLLAND, with a Preface by F. S. PARRY, C.B., Deputy-Chairman of the Board of Customs. (New York: E. P. Dutton and Company. 1908, 1910. Pp. xv, 489; xii, 506.)

THESE two thick volumes, "a popular history of the Customs", as they are called in the preface, are a curious combination of technical information and enlivening gossip. The authors are members of the staff of the English Customs Office, so that all that pertains to the internal history of that department of the government has an interest to them that is easily communicable to their readers. "The Customs", however, has a wider meaning, and its history includes an account of all the devices adopted by the crown for securing money from merchants exporting or importing goods, and the means of carrying out those devices and preventing their nullification by schemers of various kinds. Although the work purports to extend from the earliest times to the present, it is devoted principally to the period since the Restoration of 1660. All the previous centuries are described in 100 pages of the first

volume. Although nothing of especial value or originality is to be found in this part of the work it is by no means without interest. The authors' plan is to begin the narrative of each reign with a short account of the characteristic legislation concerning the revenue, then to take up the methods of carrying out this legislation, and finally to give instances of the difficulties and contests met with in doing so. This plan sometimes throws quite unimportant things into prominence and unduly subordinates matters of great interest. Such striking changes as the transfer of the control of English commerce from foreigners to natives in the fourteenth and fifteenth centuries, the change from the export of wool and import of cloth to the import of wool and export of cloth, the intrusion of English merchants for the first time into the Mediterranean, the establishment of Parliamentary grants of tunnage and poundage to the monarchs for the whole of their reign, and such larger historic facts, appear almost unannounced and almost undistinguished from quite petty and temporary matters.

The same is true of the characteristic organization of medieval trade. The Hanse, the Staple, the Merchants Adventurers, receive only very casual mention and it is obvious that the authors know nothing of their internal character or especial significance. This omission is closely connected with the paucity of the sources of information from which the book is drawn. With the usual English unfamiliarity with foreign literature it is perhaps not to be wondered at that even students of English medieval financial history have not used such books as Schanz, Keutgen, Ochenkowski, Lingelbach, and Jenckes, but one would think they might have shown some knowledge of the matter contained in Mrs. Green's *Town Life in the Fifteenth Century*. Yet if the authors do not use good secondary works neither do they use bad ones; their materials are almost all drawn from the statutes, Treasury papers, and certain collections of cases made by Treasury antiquarians.

Such a work is sure to treat largely of smuggling, that great field of stirring, if not very elevated, romance; and as a matter of fact far the greater part of the first volume and much of the second is devoted to a narrative of actual incidents of this nature. The entrance of Scotland and Ireland into the national customs system, the gradual introduction of freedom of trade and the repeal of the Navigation Laws, with the general relaxation of the revenue to which these gave rise, are recounted with an abundance, probably an overabundance, of illustrative incident. Correspondence between the customs department and other departments of the government and picturesque incidents and striking occurrences in the ordinary process of collecting the revenue as a matter of fact account for much of the bulk of this book. Connecting these, however, is a constant thread of explanation and description which makes it, popular and unskilfully arranged as it is, no mean contribution to a not very familiar side of English history.

E. P. CHEYNEY.